

ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

SUBJECT: (Optional)

FROM

Director, Foreign Broadcast
Information Service

EXTENSION

NO.

FBIS-0208/85

STAT

DATE

9 May 1985

25X1

TO: (Officer designation, room number, and
building)

DATE

RECEIVED

FORWARDED

OFFICER'S
INITIALSCOMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom
to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)1. Deputy Director for
Science and Technology
Room 6E45 - Headquarters

2. (ATTN: [REDACTED])

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Evan:

Attached is the letter from
Director USIA and my response.
As indicated, I believe we can
help him.

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USE PREVIOUS
EDITIONS

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**United States
Information
Agency**

Office of the Director

Washington, D.C. 20547



April 29, 1985

Dear

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I very much appreciated the briefing you gave to me and my staff a few weeks ago. It only confirmed my belief that FBIS offers a valuable service to the foreign affairs and national security community.

In the time since the briefing, I have been looking for ways in which your products and services could be better factored into our public diplomacy programs. One thought that I would like to explore with you involves developing a faster response mechanism to Soviet disinformation and propaganda. Your agency has its fingers on the pulse of Soviet daily global media activities and--along with the Embassy in Moscow--is in the best position to identify false allegations and disinformation about important U.S. policies as well as stories which might endanger U.S. lives or property abroad by inflaming foreign publics.

What I have in mind is an alert mechanism which would call the attention of USIA, the White House and NSC, State, and DOD to stories and allegations which require rapid response. We would have to work out details of what would constitute such a story, but that can be done by our staffs at a later date if you believe the idea has merit.

The alert mechanism would require one or two steps beyond what you normally do in your daily reporting. The most important would be that editors who spot important stories contact your liaison office which would in turn call liaisons in the four agencies involved. I would also think that such a story should get priority treatment on the FBIS wire.

I doubt that we're talking about even one or two alerts a week, if that many. My concern is that we are too often caught behind the curve in preparing responses or rebuttals to major Soviet allegations and that we should try to speed up the process. Eventually, we get on top of most problem stories and disinformation but, by then, considerable damage may have been done.

Director
Foreign Broadcast Information Service
P.O. Box 2604
Washington, D.C. 20013

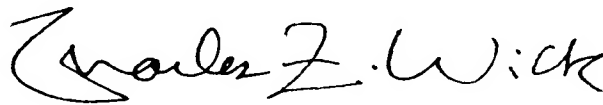
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I would appreciate your thoughts. I will take the liberty of forwarding copies of this letter to Secretaries Shultz and Weinberger, and Mr. McFarlane at the National Security Council.

With best wishes.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Charles Z. Wick". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "C".

Charles Z. Wick
Director

Central Intelligence Agency

Washington, D.C. 20505

9 May 1985

Mr. Charles Z. Wick
Director, United States Information Service
Washington, D.C. 20547

Dear Mr. Wick:

Thanks very much for your letter of 29 April on the matter of fast response to significant Soviet allegations on U.S. policies. I believe we can help by establishing an alert mechanism geared to our monitoring of the central Soviet media. Our field editors could play a major role in spotting the kind of material you refer to, and we could establish procedures for fast handling and proper flagging to the appropriate people here.

I suggest you designate one or two officers to meet with me in my office so we can define the kind of material we are talking about, and set up the proper procedures. I am sure we can devise something that will meet your needs. Please ask them to call my secretary on

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I appreciate your contacting us.

Sincerely,

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/ Director
Foreign Broadcast Information Service